

In the Claims:

A compilation of all claims is provided below:

Claims 1-58 (Cancelled)

59. (Previously Amended) An elongated bone implant for use in spinal fusions, said bone implant comprising a section of bone that comprises a substantially planar upper surface and a substantially planar lower surface that is opposite said substantially planar upper surface, an anterior end and a posterior end opposite said anterior end, a first side wall and a second side wall opposite said first side wall, wherein said first side wall and said second side wall extend between said substantially planar upper surface and said substantially planar lower surface, and wherein said second side wall defines either a concave surface or both linear and concave surfaces.

60. (Original) The elongated bone implant of claim 59, wherein said first side wall defines a convex surface.

61. (Original) The elongated bone implant of claim 59, wherein said elongated bone implant is comprised of autograft, allograft, or xenograft cortical or cancellous bone.

62. (Cancelled)

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Currently Amended) The elongated bone implant of claim 59, wherein said substantially planar upper surface and said substantially planar lower surface, or both are machined to display a ~~rough~~, ridged or ~~grooved~~ surface to aid in preventing said bone

implant from moving out of place.

66. (Previously Amended) The elongated bone implant of claim 65, wherein said substantially planar upper surface and said substantially planar lower surface are machined to display ridges that are configured to prevent sliding of said bone implant back toward the direction from which said bone implant is inserted.

67. (Cancelled)

68. (Cancelled)

69. (Original) A method of fusing a first vertebra to a second vertebra comprising distracting said first and second vertebrae; removing a portion of an intervertebral disc positioned between said first and second vertebrae thereby creating a space, and implanting an elongated bone implant according to claim 1 into said space, wherein said elongated bone implant is positioned such that said second side wall faces inwardly.

70. (Previously Amended) A method of fusing a first vertebra to a second vertebra in a patient comprising:

distracting said first and second vertebrae;

removing a portion of an intervertebral disc positioned between said first and second vertebrae thereby creating a space; and

implanting an elongated bone implant into said space, said bone implant comprising a section of bone that comprises a substantially planar upper surface and a substantially planar lower surface that is opposite said substantially planar upper surface, an anterior end and a posterior end opposite said anterior end, a first side wall and a second side wall opposite said first side wall, wherein said first side wall and said second side wall extend between said substantially planar upper surface and said substantially planar lower surface, and wherein said second side wall defines either a concave surface or both linear

and concave surfaces;

wherein said elongated bone implant is positioned in said space such that said second side wall faces inwardly.

71. (Original) The method of claim 70, wherein said elongated bone implant is positioned such that said anterior end is directed toward the anterior side of said patient and said posterior end is directed toward the posterior side of said patient.